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LEADING THE NEWS

Natural Resources

Border Wall May Affect Wildlife but Likely Unstoppable in Court

The Trump administration's plan to build a wall along the 2,000-mile U.S. border with Mexico may have harmful effects on wildlife and habitat but appears to have legal clearance, environmental advocates told Bloomberg BNA....

NEWS

Chemicals

Court Set to Dismiss Monsanto Suit to Block Prop. 65

Listing of Glyphosate

A California court is set to dismiss Monsanto Co.'s lawsuit to block the state from listing glyphosate, the main ingredient in Roundup, as a carcinogen under Proposition 65 *Monsanto Co. v. OEHHA*, Cal. Super. Ct., No. 16CECG00183, 1/26/17....

Chemical Security

Pruitt Avoids Specifics on Chemical Security Issues as CRA Action Urged

EPA Administrator nominee Scott Pruitt avoided specific answers to questions about tougher regulatory policies for high-risk chemical facilities, according to documents released by the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee's...

Climate Change

Climate Change a 'Non-Problem,' Trump EPA Appointee Says

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A Trump administration appointee to the EPA called climate change a "non-problem" and got into a testy exchange with the audience at a conservative think tank's Jan. 26 panel discussion....

Climate Change

NYC Carbon Plan Companies Don't Include Trump's
Nearly two dozen New York City big commercial real estate owners and tenants have enlisted in a program to cut the greenhouse gas emissions of buildings that its boosters hope other cities can emulate....

Climate Change

Trump Climate Pivot Takes Shape in Overhaul of Federal Websites

The White House website no longer has a section on climate change. An EPA page that answered "common questions" about global warming is gone. And reports on greenhouse gas emissions have vanished from the State Department's...

Climate Change

Trump Wants to Downplay Global Warming. Louisiana Won't Let Him.

On a recent morning in Baton Rouge, a thousand miles from where Senate Democrats were jousting with President Donald Trump's nominee to run the Environmental Protection Agency about whether humans are warming the planet, the future...

Climate Policy

Tesla's Musk Said to Float Carbon Tax Idea to Trump, CEOs

Tesla Motors Inc. founder Elon Musk is pressing the Trump administration to adopt a tax on carbon emissions, raising the issue directly with President Donald Trump and U.S. business leaders at a White House meeting Jan. 23 regarding manufacturing....

Coal Mining

House Vote to Scrub Stream Protection Rule Set for Feb. 1
The Republican-led effort to scrub away an Obama-era coal mining rule will begin Feb. 1, when the House will vote to nix the standard....

Congress

Senate Environment Committee to Hold Infrastructure Hearing Feb. 8

Boosting infrastructure spending is a well-known priority for the Trump administration and for members of Congress from both parties. The Senate committee that plays a key role in authorizing most infrastructure projects will enter the...

Emissions Trading

Stricter Curbs Likely in EU Carbon Reform, Climate Official Says

The European Union may agree to strengthen its flagship climate program by further curbing a glut of emission permits that

weighs on pollution prices, according to Jos Delbeke, the EU's top climate official....

Energy

AltaGas Joins Canada Buying Spree in U.S. With \$4.6 Billion Deal

Add AltaGas Ltd. to the list of Canadian companies that can't seem to get enough of America's energy assets....

Energy

Battle Building Around Portland, Ore., Oil Terminal Ban
Conservation groups intervened Jan. 25 in support of a Portland, Ore., ordinance prohibiting new bulk fossil fuel terminals over 2 million gallons and the expansion of existing ones after a coalition of oil companies, labor unions and business...

Energy

Bay Resigns From FERC After Trump Taps LaFleur as Chairman

Norman Bay, the former chairman of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, resigned from the agency after President Donald Trump selected Commissioner Cheryl LaFleur to be the new acting chairman....

Energy

Kristine Svinicki to Chair Nuclear Regulatory Commission

Kristine Svinicki has been appointed by President Donald Trump to chair the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, effective immediately. ...

EPA

EPA Water Official to Return to Private Law Practice

The nation's top water official will leave public service and join the environment, law and resources practice at Latham & Watkins LLP as a partner. ...

Insurance

South Korea Casts Safety Net for Fishermen Tackling High Temps

South Korea has revamped its state-backed aquaculture insurance system to increase relief for fish and sea life farmers who are hard hit by sudden temperature changes....

International Climate

Trump Readies, Then Delays Orders Targeting Climate Fund, Treaties

The Trump administration is readying executive orders—which could be signed in the next day or so—to limit or even end U.S. support for United Nations climate funding and perhaps lay the groundwork for eventual retreat from international...

Motor Vehicles

Musk's Surprising Rapport With Trump Yields 40% Rally for Tesla

It's a good time to be Elon Musk....

Motor Vehicles

Trump Revives Auto Efficiency Debate with Pledge to Slash Rules

President Donald Trump's pledge to ease environmental regulations hands automakers a second chance to amend the U.S. vehicle efficiency standards that the Obama administration sought to finalize in its final days....

Oil & Gas

Dakota Access Pipeline Developer Goes Silent After Trump Move

Energy Transfer Partners LP got a boost on Jan. 24 when President Donald Trump threw his weight behind its controversial Dakota Access oil pipeline....

Oil & Gas

Keystone and Dakota Access Face Hurdles Despite Trump's Blessing

President Donald Trump may have revived prospects for the controversial Keystone XL and Dakota Access pipelines, but the path to their completion still faces hurdles....

Renewable Energy

China Adds Wind Power as Grid Struggles to Absorb Electricity

China saw the amount of idled wind power increase 47 percent in 2016 as the installation of new turbines surpassed the ability of grids to absorb the electricity....

Sustainability

State Street Asks Boards to Disclose More on Climate Preparation

Climate change is no longer listed as a top issue on the White House website, but it's very much at the forefront for \$2.47 trillion asset manager State Street Corp....

Toxic Substances

Legality of Electronic Products Addressed by EU Proposal

The European Commission Jan. 26 proposed to amend the European Union's Restriction of Hazardous Substances Directive to remove provisions that could result in certain electrical and electronic products, and product spare parts,...

Water Pollution

Environment America Won't Back Government in Water Rule Venue Case

The nonprofit Environment America won't back the federal government's position in the U.S. Supreme Court to have Clean Water Rule challenges heard in a federal appeals court....

Some Executive Orders More Powerful Than Others

President Donald Trump has, like all modern presidents, issued a flurry of executive orders in his first days in office, some of which can be surprisingly effective even without congressional involvement, a governance scholar told Bloomberg...

BNA INSIGHTS

Practitioner Insights: Decommissioning Offshore Oil Platforms

The federal outer continental shelf (OCS) has generated a large amount of America's oil and gas production, but each platform eventually reaches the end of its useful life. OCS leases require that the improvements be decommissioned...

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